

Currents

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Megwa Ezhiweback



Mnidoog-Gisoons (Little Spirit Moon)
December 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 11

ALSO IN THIS PUBLICATION

P. 2- FROM THE OGEMA'S OFFICE

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P. 12 &13- GOOD THUNDER

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P.26- MEMBERS SUBMISSIONS

United Tribes of Michigan



The United Tribes of Michigan held their annual meeting in Battle Creek and chose LRBOI's Ogema Larry Romanelli to take over the Presidency from Chief Fred Cantu

Elders meet in Manistee

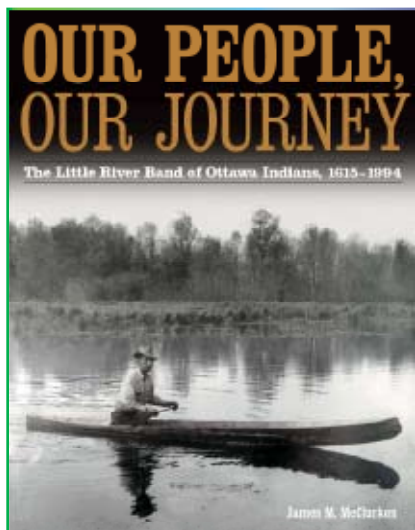


Almost 180 Tribal Elders gathering at the Little River Casino Resort for their annual meeting

*Office of Public
Affairs
Contact Information
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*⌘ "Editor's note: This is the
Holiday Issue of the Currents.
The next issue will be out in
January. Please continue to
submit article, photos or in-
formation during December."*

**"Our People Our Journey"
Tribal History book receives
award from the
Historical Society of Michigan.**



Good Thunder and Code Talkers



Good Thunder Motorcycles unveils custom bike for Nava-jo Code Talkers Museum at Scottville High School; .



Aanii, Update...our Little River Trading Post/C-Store received their third 100% Helio 100 Test! As I reported last month, the test is given by Blarney Castle our distributor on several factors, which include overall looks of store, how well it's stocked,

customer service etc. CONGRATULATIONS to Jamie Friedel and the entire staff!

This past weekend I attended the Elder's Conference at the Little River Casino Resort, which was well attended. I want to thank the Elder's Committee for doing a fine job putting together a full agenda and also the various presenters; I heard many compliments. Miigwetch.

I have traveled more in the past 30 days than I have all the rest of my time as Ogema. October 27-29th, I traveled to St. Paul Minnesota with Public Safety Director, Joseph LaPorte to the U.S. Department of Justice's Tribal Nations Listening Session on Public Safety and law Enforcement. Eric H. Holder Jr., U.S. Attorney General, was the Keynote Speaker. The Attorney General also brought his two top people, David Ogden, Deputy Attorney Gen-

eral and Tom Perelli, Associate Attorney General to help facilitate the talking sessions with Tribal Leaders. Director LaPorte led one of the breakout sessions. A wide variety of Law Enforcement topics were discussed over the three days and I believe the talks were successful.

The week of November 1-7, I had the opportunity to join other tribal leaders in Washington DC at the invitation of the Whitehouse. President Barack Obama met with us on November 5th. The week started off with an invitation to the Open House of the Embassy of the Tribal Nations, which included speeches by NCAI President, Jefferson Keel and newly appointed Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Larry EchoHawk along with Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar. The whole week was impressive and I had time to catch up with our former Heath Director, Jessica Burger for a brief time. The trip also included meetings on HIS Self-Governance Meetings, Meetings with the Department of Labor and a reception held at the National Museum of the American Indians and a trip to the Federal FBI Building. The Seminole Tribe offered a reception at the Washington D.C. Hard Rock Café, however, I could not attend.

In discussions with other Tribal leaders, there is a feeling that results of these meeting will be positive, I agree but only time will tell.

I appreciate the opportunity to represent Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Miigwetch.

But even more important than my travels is the fact that two persons from the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians have recently received very high honors. As noted in the last edition of the Currents, Margaret Chandler, was nominated by her granddaughter, Valerie Chandler and was inducted into the Michigan Woman's Hall of Fame on October 21st in East Lansing, Michigan at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. Jerry Guenthardt also recently received a long overdue honor from President Obama. From the Whitehouse, President Obama awarded Jerry and others from the Army's Troop A, First Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment the citation for "extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry." Once you've read his story, you will understand how deserving he is. Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and his family have a lot to be proud of. Thank you Jerry.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable holiday season

Until next month....

OGEMA'S THOUGHTS ON THE PROPOSED GAMING ENTERPRISE(S) BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACT OF 2009, Ordinance # 09-800-03

At this time, I cannot support this proposed draft ordinance for the following reasons: First, the Ogema currently serves as overseer to the Board of Directors of the Little River Casino Resort; to put the Ogema in as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the LRCR seems to be a conflict of interest, if not legally, ethically. I cannot support having the Ogema serve in the two capacities.

I also cannot support having four of the seven member board be elected officials. Having elected officials represent a majority of the board does not seem to be a good idea.

It appears that the three people appointed by the Ogema, need to have gaming or business experience, however, I see no similar requirements for the elected officials who again, would hold four of the seven seats on the Board.

It also appears that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson would always be elected officials, which I would not be comfortable with.

While it states that the Ogema makes the appointments, the Tribal Council must approve the appointment and this can be done by a simple majority of Council. I cannot support this. I believe if the Council is to deny an appointment, it should be by a vote of at least seven of the nine members of Council.

In the recent survey done by OSIYO, their suggestion is not to have elected officials involved with the casino operations, if I remember correctly.

There was a suggestion to have Rob Gibbs help the Tribe figure out some way to resolve the issues. I would suggest that before making any changes, that we get an outside opinion from someone such as Mr. Gibbs.

United Tribes of Michigan meets



At the United Tribes of Michigan meeting on November 10th in Battle Creek, Ogema Larry Romanelli was honored to be elected as the new President of the organization. This is an honor for the

Little River Band as well as an opportunity to increase our presence and influence not just here in Michigan but in Washington D. C. as well. Council Speaker Steve Parsons and Council Members Candace Chapman, Virgil Johnson and Norbert Kelsey also attended the tribal meeting.

Recorder's Report to Membership for September 2009

FY 2010 Budget Review: Members of the Tribal Council participated in multiple work sessions with Department Directors to review budget submissions for FY 2010. The Members Assistance Department included information from past years that detailed the number of applications made for specific Member programs, and included a breakdown of those programs by county, as well as those services provided to Members residing outside of the State of Michigan. This information was provided to the Tribal Council in a detailed report as of September 2009. As an example, the LIHEAP program, which provides assistance to pay energy bills, processed 160 applications year to date, providing \$39,117.00 of assistance to Tribal Members. The Tribe's Low Income Energy Program, which is 100% funded by Gaming Revenue, processed 187 applications, with 53 of those applications going to Members that reside outside the State of Michigan. The Low Income Energy Program provided \$49,955.64 of assistance to Tribal Members. It was noted that the Food Assistance program provided \$55,002.50 of assistance to 200 applicants, and those benefits were paid to members no matter where they reside. This information is just one example of the information currently under review by the Tribal Council when considering the FY 2010 budget. Final review of the FY 2010 budget is expected to be completed prior December 15, 2009.

CASINO BOARD Ordinance posted for Public Comment: The Tribal Council has posted a new ordinance for public comment. The Ordinance includes revisions that will replace the current Board of Directors Ordinance. Initial reaction to the posting of this Ordinance was received during the Elders' Conference held at Little River Casino Resort the first weekend of November. Public opinion varies, but it must be noted that some opposition was expressed to the number of elected officials expected to serve as Board members of the Casino as the current revisions are proposed. The summary of changes included in the revised ordinance, and posted for public comment are as follows:

- The Board of Directors will consist of seven members, three of whom will be at-large and four of whom will be elected officials – the Ogema and three members of Tribal Council. (Article IV)
- The Ogema may choose to act as the Chairperson, but is not required to do so. If the Ogema chooses to not act as the Chair, then he must appoint one of the three Council members to act as Chairperson. That appointment will not require Tribal Council approval. (Section 4.02(b)(2))
- The Ogema will appoint all members of the Board and Tribal Council will approve the appointments. All efforts will be made to appoint at-large members with business experience, particularly in the gaming industry. (Article IV)

- One Tribal Council member will be elected as Vice-Chairperson by vote of the remaining members of the Board. (Section 4.02(c)(3))

- The Board of Directors may remove a member for good cause, which is defined as: (a) failure to attend four meetings within a 12-month period; (b) revocation of a license or permit that reflects poorly on the member's integrity; (c) conviction of a felony or misdemeanor that reflects poorly on the member's integrity; and (d) failure to carry out fiscal obligations. (Section 5.02)

- A removal process has been created that is consistent with the removal process of Tribal Council members contained in the Meeting Procedures Ordinance. Any removal hearing will be held in closed session, unless the Board member requests otherwise. A decision to remove is final. (Section 5.03)

- If the Board fails to bring a charge for removal for good cause against a member, Tribal Council may do so consistent with the procedures identified in the Ordinance. Removal by Tribal Council would be by majority vote and would be final. (Section 5.04)

- There are built-in disqualifiers for automatic removal: (a) the Board member no longer holds a valid gaming license; and (b) the member is an elected official who is no longer a member of the Tribe. Disqualification must be in writing which specifically identifies the reasons for the disqualification; that the member is disqualified effective immediately; and that the disqualification cannot be appealed. (Article VI)

- Vacancies must be posted for 30 days and identify any preferred qualifications. With respect to the first Board created in accordance with this Ordinance, the Ogema is required to submit appointments to Council for approval within thirty days after the date of adoption. (Section 7.02)

- The Board is required to act only by Resolution when committing funds or authorizing a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Gaming Enterprise. Resolutions must be forwarded to the Tribal Council Recorder. (Section 8.04)

- At-large Board members will receive compensation as authorized by Tribal Council Resolution. The Ogema and Council members sitting on the Board will not. (Section 8.06)

- The Board must, within 30 days of the effective date of the Ordinance, forward to Tribal Council for approval a comprehensive Grievance Procedure Policy that creates a Board of Review made up of Enterprise employees. Employees subject to a Collective Bargaining agreement on or after the effective date of this Ordinance are exempt from this process. (Section 9.03(c))

- The Board of Directors is expressly delegated authority to enter into Collective Bargaining Agreements for the Gaming Enterprise(s) on behalf of the Tribe. The Board has the power to approve contracts up to \$500,000 without Council approval, and is authorized to enter into

employment contract with Primary Management Officials. Employment contracts require Tribal Council ratification. The Board cannot enter into or approve contracts for legal counsel or construction contracts; or contracts with any "body politic." Contracts must be approved by Resolution, which must be forwarded to the Recorder. (Section 9.03(d))

- Article X delegates a limited power to waive the sovereign immunity of the Gaming Enterprise when executing Collective Bargaining Agreements and approving contracts. The Board cannot waive immunity from suits for damages. Waivers are limited to claims against the Enterprise. The Board cannot waive the immunity of the Tribal government. The Board can only waive sovereign immunity by Resolution, which must be forwarded to the Recorder. (Article X)

- The Ordinance now contains extensive, detailed reporting requirements and schedules for submission of budgets; annual reports; annual operating plans and reports; and monthly reports. (Article XI)

- Article XII sets forth a schedule for required mandatory distributions, including: distributions required by any Compact; Tribal gross gaming revenue tax; and net gaming revenue.

- At-large Board members and the Ogema shall serve four-year terms. The term of office for Council members is two years. Each Member of the Board appointed and approved in accordance with the Ordinance shall have a term of office that expires sixty (60) days after the expiration of the Ogema's term of office.

- The Ordinance goes into effect 30 days from the date of adoption, during which period the Ogema is required to appoint the first Board members.

The Membership is reminded that the Public Comment Period runs for the full 30 days, and at the conclusion of the period, there is no guarantee that the Ordinance as proposed will be adopted. There will be one final work session scheduled to review the Public Comments received, and to include additional changes as appropriate based on the input from the Citizens. Other Ordinances currently under discussion by the Tribal Council include a Tribal Prosecutor Ordinance and amendments to the Audit Reform Act. As the legislation is finalized, there will be public comment publication.

The Tribal Council will not be meeting on November 25, 2009. For the Month of December, the Tribal Council will meet in Regular Session on December 2, December 9, and December 16. The Tribal Council Office will be closed for Legislative Recess, as of December 21, 2009, and will re-open on January 4, 2010. Please be reminded that the Ogema has declared during the week between Christmas and New Year's the Tribal Government Offices will be closed.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine M. Sam

Veterans Honored

MANISTEE—On November 11, 2009, a group of veterans, their families and friends proudly gathered at the Welcoming Hearth of the Little River Casino Resort. The Hearth fire crackled gently as Casino General Manager Tom Davis stood beside posted American flags and respectfully welcomed the crowd to the Veterans Day ceremony. Swirling Winds drum provided a traditional flag song and recordings of Armed Service fight songs were played.

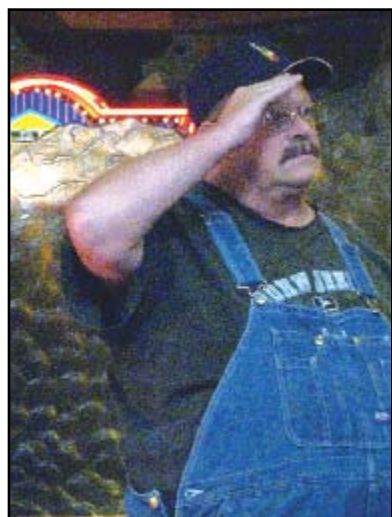
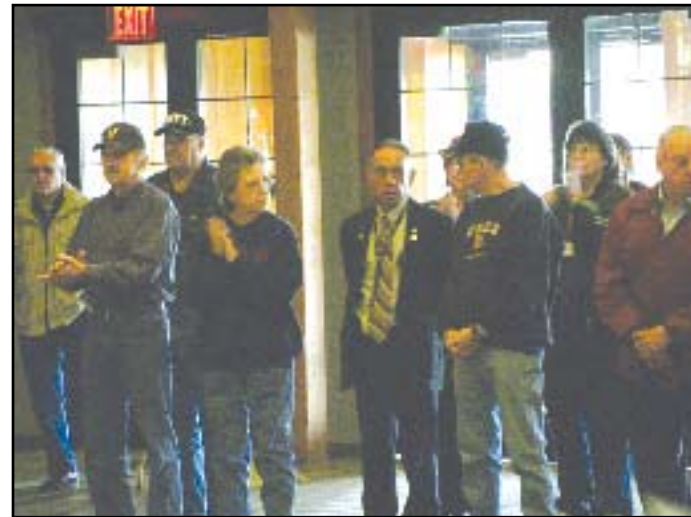
“Thank you all for your service,” Davis addressed the veterans. He then introduced Director of Facilities, Jerry Guenthardt. Guenthardt, a Vietnam Veteran, served with Alpha Troop during the Vietnam War and President Obama recently awarded the Troop with the Presidential Unit Citation for their selfless action during March of 1970.

Guenthardt led the Pledge of Allegiance and the ceremony followed with a moment of silence. Davis spoke of fallen service men and women. “They are no longer with us here,” he said, “but are no doubt in service elsewhere.”

The crowd stood reverently as the National Anthem played and Swirling Winds closed with an honor song for the veterans, many of whom wore the “Hats for Heroes” given to them by the casino.

“Good luck and God bless America,” Davis bid farewell to the veterans. “May our hearts always glow in those glorious colors of red, white and blue.”

Victoria Parker



Nearly 40 years after members of a U.S. cavalry unit put their lives in peril to save 100 fellow soldiers trapped under blistering enemy fire in Vietnam, the unit received the Presidential Unit Citation on Tuesday the 20th of October. One member of that honored unit is our very own tribal member and Casino Director of Facilities, Jerry Guenthardt!

It's an honor their captain said is long overdue as reported in stories from CNN, MSNBC and other news media.

President Obama awarded the citation for extraordinary heroism and conspicuous gallantry to 86 members of the Army's Troop A, First Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

"These soldiers defined the meaning of bravery and heroism," Obama said at a White House reception honoring the group's heroics.

"It's never too late. You can never say it enough. ... We honor your service, and America is forever grateful."

On March 26, 1970, the 120-member Troop A volunteered to rescue an American infantry company surrounded by an overwhelming enemy force at a site on the Cambodian border called the Dog's Face. The enemy had survived hours of aerial and artillery bombardment and was expected to kill or capture the 100 American infantrymen in Company C within hours. The Americans were running out of ammunition and could not move because of heavy casualties. There were no available landing zones for medical and rescue helicopters to touch down.

Alpha Troop heard of their plight on a radio and rode in with an infantry company to rescue their comrades.

"Troop A skillfully penetrated four kilometers of nearly impassable jungle terrain and unhesitatingly mounted a fierce assault directly into the heavily fortified North Vietnamese army position," the presidential proclamation states.

When the battle was over, more than 70 Americans lay dead or wounded.

For retired Capt. John Poindexter, who led the rescue, the award is for all Vietnam veterans, many of whom came home to an unwelcome and sometimes hostile reception.

"The Veterans of Alpha Troop feel very strongly that we stand in the stead of all veterans of the war of Vietnam," Poindexter told CNN before the ceremony. "The fact is that we're being singled out for a very dis-

tinct honor, a very rare one, but it is our conviction that on any day in any other jungle in Vietnam, nearly every Vietnam veteran would have been willing to assume the task that we assumed on March 26, 1970, when we earned the Presidential Unit Citation." Poindexter had been trying to gain recognition for his men for the past seven years. Initially, he felt deep disappointment.



In 2003, he discovered that the men he had recommended for decorations for their valor had not received those citations. Eventually, 14 men received individual decorations.

That was not enough.

"My role in obtaining the PUC [Presidential Unit Citation] -- or in helping to obtain the PUC -- among the 200 persons who were involved in this matter over a seven-year period, was to be in the unhappy position of discovering that the men who I had recommended for decorations had not been recommended, had not been awarded those decorations," the retired captain said.

"The result of that was that we got 14 men decorated for their valor, but 14 men out of more than 120 who were engaged in the battle on that fateful day were only a pittance, only a minority, of those who might have been honored. Only a unit citation could honor all equally and impartially, and it was that task we set ourselves on nearly seven years ago."

He believes lack of popular support for the war had much to do with it taking so long for Alpha Troop to be recognized.

"There's little question in our minds that the unpopularity of the war in Vietnam is a major contributing factor to the reception

these men received when they returned to the United States and a major factor, in my opinion, in the silence that most of them have assumed since then," Poindexter said. "Why talk about something that most people don't have a very high opinion of in all likelihood? And if that isn't true, nevertheless, it's what most of these men think. They were engaged in an unpopular venture that has bedeviled them for much of their adult lives."

Now, the circle has been closed.

"It's a very elevating experience to see the men that I have not seen for 40 years since War Zone C in Vietnam," the former captain said. "These are persons who have had success in life, and some have not had a lot of success in life, and to see how they've turned out, how they look these days, and to know I'll be with them in the White House [Tuesday] is a very fulfilling sensation for me."

"For me, the sensation of being honored is one of having closed an important chapter on my life in a very fruitful and rewarding way."

The Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to armed forces units of the United States and allies for extraordinary heroism against an armed enemy on or after December 7, 1941. The unit must display such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions so as to set it apart from and above other units participating in the same campaign.

Tribal Ogema Larry Romanelli, upon learning of Jerry's service and honor commented that, "Obviously, I am very proud of Jerry for his being honored, but a 'thank you' is in order for protecting our country; and knowing the sacrifices, only saying 'thank you' seems so insignificant. What we have in this Country, is a direct result of brave individuals like Jerry."

(A number of our Tribal members and employees served honorably in the "police action" called Vietnam and we stand with all citizens in honoring them this way. It is indeed long overdue! Editor)

Michigan Women's Hall of Fame to honor Wyoming native, first female American Indian dentist in U.S.



come the first female American Indian dentist in the United States. She will be inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame on Thursday.

The Rickerts grew up in Wyoming, where Jessica Rickert graduated from Rogers High School and went on to the University of Michigan. Her brother describes her as a "trailblazer," going to dental school as a woman and a minority at a time when the field was dominated by white men.

Jessica Rickert, one of six women in a class of 155, found support among her female classmates and others and kept her eye on her goal.

"There were snide remarks and things said," she recalled of some of her classmates and professors. "They did things that were not very generous or welcoming."

She focused on her coursework, which was challenging and fascinating.

"I didn't have time to think about the remarks being made," she said.

Rickert graduated from dental school in 1975 and went on to practice dentistry in Allen Park and Birmingham. She also provided dental care to foster children through the Children's Aid Society in Detroit and has served on the Michigan Urban Indian Health Council.

In 1982, she moved to Interlochen, where she continues to practice dentistry. She was a founding member of the Society of American Indian Dentists, which provides outreach to American Indian

youth, encouraging them to pursue a college education.

Rickert, 59, also has written dental health advice columns for tribal newspapers across the country, and received the American Dental Association Access Award for her work.

For Rickert, who was encouraged to pursue dentistry by her family doctor as a youngster, giving back comes naturally. Growing up in Wyoming, her hard-working family always helped others. They often would visit relatives on reservations.

The Rickerts have a rich Native American family tradition. They are descendants of Chief Whitepigeon, for whom the Michigan town of White Pigeon is named.

As an inductee of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, Rickert continues to look forward. She would like to encourage the next generation to pursue their dreams.

E-mail the author of this story: yourlife@grpress.com

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By Pat Mish | The Grand Rapids Press
 October 19, 2009, 9:29AM



Elders News

Elders Conference at Three Fires. Almost 180 Tribal Elders attended the conference the weekend of the 7th. The Elders Secretary submitted this thank you:

November 9th, 2009

The Elders Committee would like to Thank You all very much for helping us making our Elders Conference a big success. We received quite a few compliments on the conference this year. With you all volunteering your time and information it made our conference a well-informed and enjoyable conference.

Thank you all very, very much!!!!

The Elders Committee

Attention all Tribal Members

Tribal Committee/Commission openings. The following is a list of commission seats currently available and also seats that will be open as of September 20, 2009.

Commerce Commission	3 current openings	1 opening as of 9/20
Gaming Commission	1 current opening	1 opening as of 9/20
Housing Commission		3 openings as of 9/20
Binojeeuk Commission	4 current openings	1 opening as of 9/20
Enrollment Commission		4 openings as of 9/20
Health Commission		2 openings as of 9/20
NR Commission	1 current opening	1 opening as of 9/20

Anyone interested in serving on any of the above commissions need to submit a letter of interest to the Ogema's office.
 Thanks

Address changes

The Enrollment Department and the Accounting Department have been experiencing a tremendous amount of address changes coming in late or checks being returned because of undeliverable addresses during the Per Cap Distribution time. This has created a significant amount of work on both departments to change addresses, redistribute returned and undeliverable checks. After discussing this matter, the timeline for updating an address before a Per Cap distribution will be (14) fourteen business days. Previously, it was (5) five business days before the distribution date for Per Cap.

If you move please remember to change your address with the Enrollment Department immediately and to make sure a forwarding address is submitted to the U.S. Postal Office.

Remember, if you do not change your address (14) fourteen business days prior to the distribution of the per cap checks, your check will be mailed to the last known address on file in the Enrollment Department.

If you have questions, please call us at
1-231-398-6712 or
1-231-398-6713

Diane A. Lonn
Enrollment Officer

Per Capita and Bereavement Benefit payments

It has come to the attention of the Enrollment Department that there have been a number of situations whereby access to Per Capita and Bereavement Benefit payments have been hindered because of the individual who is listed as the beneficiary. The cause of the problem has been due to the listing of a minor child as the beneficiary. The Enrollment Department is recommending that if you currently have a minor child listed as the beneficiary on either your Per Capita or Bereavement Benefit form that you may want to consider changing that person to an adult to eliminate any future problems associated with the distribution of those funds on your behalf.

Government Closes for the following Holidays

- *New Years Day
- *Treaty Recognition Day
- *Memorial Day
- *Independence Day
- *Labor Day
- *Reaffirmation Day (September 21st)
- *Veteran's Day
- *Thanksgiving Day
- *Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- *Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- *Christmas Day

Some areas of the government will be continue to be available on these holidays, such as Public Safety. Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of the Government facilities. It's always a good idea to call first if you are not sure.

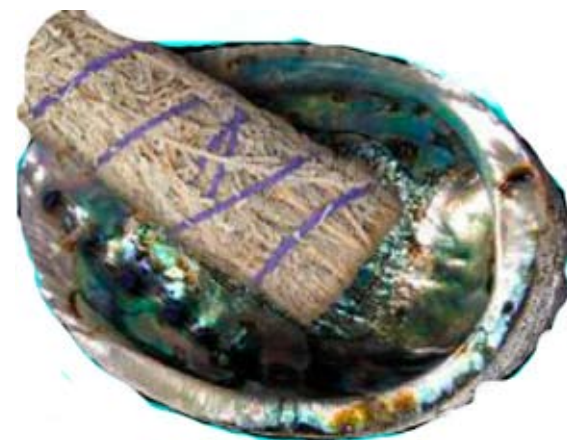
Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

Beneficiary forms/ PerCap Beneficiary form

The Enrollment Department would like to remind all Tribal Members who have not filled out a Beneficiary form or a PerCap Beneficiary form needs to contact our office. Please remember that these forms have to be notarized. There are still some Tribal Members who need to update their addresses. If you have moved, are moving in the near future or know someone who has moved please contact our office to update the address. This form has to be notarized as well.

Tribal Directories are now available at the Enrollment Department. A written request must be submitted if you would like one mailed to you or they can also be picked up at our office. Our office hours are Monday through Thursday 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

We can be contacted by calling
Diane A. Lonn at (231) 398-6712,
Jessica Wissner at (231) 398-6713, or
Laurie Willis at (231) 398-6720.



Manistee Ford-Mercury is pleased to again offer Little River of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government employees and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Members (including employee and member families) special discount pricing on new vehicles. New Ford and Mercury vehicles that are eligible for the supplier discount will be made available at that price. In addition, all parts and service customers will be given 15% off. This is valid on any non-sale or coupon related purchases. All customers must present their employee or tribal member identification prior to purchase.

**We look forward to assisting the entire
Little River organization!
Make sure to visit**

<http://manisteeFord.dealerconnection.com/>

**The Warriors Society is
gathering photographs of members to be
use when their office opens.**

**Please send photos of
our Warriors either in
uniform or in
civillian dress to
the address below**



WARRIORS SOCIETY

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,
Warriors Society,
375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660**

Tribal Elder Receives Historical Honor

Mnidoog-Gisoon (Little Spirit Moon)
December 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 11

Submitted by Valerie Chandler

On Wednesday, October 21, 2009, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Elder Margaret Chandler was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. From 110 nominations, she was selected as one of ten women to be inducted. The event was held at Michigan State University's Kellogg Center in East Lansing, Michigan. It was a truly spectacular evening which started off with a welcoming reception and dinner, followed by the induction ceremony. The Chandler family was brought together and Margaret's spirit was well-represented and remembered. Attending the historical event were seven of her nine children and their spouses (as denoted): Bonnie (Duane) Belden, Sandra (David) Alford, Robert (Sandra) Chandler, Mary Gumieny, Dale Chandler, Tim Chandler, and Janette Summers. Four grandchildren attended: Jennifer Woods, Vicky Wanink, Valerie (Matthew) Chandler, and Joan Burkhart. Margaret's sister, Elizabeth Krick and brother, Richard Bailey were able to attend as well. Although not in attendance at the induction, Margaret's honor was in the minds of many, including; her children, Tom Chandler and Jeff Chandler; her sisters, Regina Forbes and Vivian Barrett; her brothers, Robert Bailey and John Bailey; her grandchildren, Becky Gustin, Eric Stires, Michelle Webster, Catrina Corbin, Georgia Dorvinen, Susan Irish, Lydia Chandler, Justin Gumieny, Jonah Gumieny, William Chandler, Samantha Chandler, Shawn Davis, and Andrew Summers; and many more nieces, nephews, great-grandchildren, and friends.

The presentation of the award was given by James McClurken, who spoke about Margaret's determination and integrity. Accepting the award on Margaret's behalf were her granddaughter, Valerie Chandler, who nominated Margaret for the honor, and her son, Dale Chandler, who gratefully thanked the Michigan Women's Studies Association, the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and Historical Center, their board of directors and those in attendance. Dale also briefly recalled his mother's accomplishments and influences in which her legacy lives on for future generations.

Margaret's award was in the Historical division, recognizing women whose work and accomplishments benefited community areas and/or the State of Michigan, but are no longer living. In recognition of her award, Margaret's family received an engraved plaque from the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, which reads as follows:

PRESENTED IN HONORED MEMORY
OF
MARGARET CHANDLER
1929-1997
WHOSE HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS
TO
BOTH STATE AND SOCIETY
HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED BY HER
ELECTION TO
THE MICHIGAN WOMEN'S HALL OF
FAME 2009

Additionally, Margaret's family also received a hand-signed proclamation of her contributions by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Michigan, which reads as follows:

"On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, we, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, and Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr., do hereby recognize Margaret Chandler upon being named a Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Honoree, Historical Category. As a Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Honoree for the Historical Category, Margaret Chandler is being recognized for the strength and superior leadership that she had. Margaret Chandler's hard work resulted in federal recognition for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in 1994 and in the preservation of hunting and fishing rights asserted by the 1836 Treaty of Washington. It is because of her commitment to fight for what she believed in that we recognize Margaret Chandler as a true model of excellence. Given under my hand and the Great Seal of Michigan on this day of October Two Thousand and Nine."

Prior to this year's induction, only four Native American women had been inducted, but along with Margaret, two other Native American women were inducted on October 21st. Not only did this year's inductees nearly double the number of admirable Native American women in the Hall of Fame, but they surmounted 250 remarkable women overall.

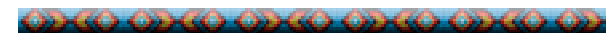
The other two Native American women inducted were Dr. Jessica Rickert and Kay Givens McGowan. Dr. Rickert was recognized for her work relating to the health of Native Americans, specifically in dentistry. When she graduated from college in 1975, she became the first female Native American dentist in the country and she currently has her office in Interlochen, Michigan. Dr. Rickert has also written a book and helped establish dental offices for two Michigan Tribes. Kay Givens McGowan was inducted based upon her work as a social activist against domestic violence as a delegate representing women, youth, and Native Americans at United Nations conferences. She has also been a leader in repealing tax legislation and is an accomplished writer.

The evening proved to be very refreshing to see Native women being recognized for their hard work and contributions. Due to the three Native inductees, the 26th annual Michigan Women's Hall of Fame saw the largest representation of Native Americans in the history of their inductions. At the conclusion of the ceremony, all of the Anishinaabek present were gathered for a group photo to commemorate the historic occasion. It was a great day to be proud of our culture and the historical strides our people are taking.

If you would like to learn more about Margaret and her life's work, please refer to the Dedication of the Tribe's history book, "Our People, Our Journey". For more information about the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and Historical Center, please visit their website, www.michiganwomen-shalloffame.org. Perhaps in the future we'll see more Little River Band of Ottawa Indians women make history!

Sincerest Thanks

The Chandler family would like to take this opportunity to say "kchi-miigwech" to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council and Ogema for their support and sponsorship of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Margaret's honor. We also give many thanks and appreciation to Ron Spoerl, Kenny and Nadine Pheasant, Melanie Ceplina, and Tammy Bowen for your kind gestures and donations; your support is truly a blessing! A very special "miigwech" goes to Margaret's brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Carol Bailey in Maryland for their generous donation, love, and support. Lastly, we also give our thanks and sincerest appreciation to everyone who made purchases and donations to the family's fundraiser during the Fall Membership meeting. Without all of you, we would not have had the family representation we did at the induction ceremony; again, we say "Kchi-Miigwech"!



Tribal Councilor attends Hall of Fame Dinner

Councilwoman Pat Ruiter attended the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame dinner, during which the late Margaret Chandler was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, on October 21, 2009. Pat had prepared a few thoughts regarding the event, and what it meant to her:

As a member of the Little River Band Tribal Council, it is my honor and privilege to say a few words on behalf of Margaret Chandler. I'm not sure if you can imagine for a moment, what your life would be like, if you were denied your identity. But for many decades, the people of GaaChing Ziibii Daawaa Anishinaabek experienced that very thing. We were denied our heritage, our culture, our language. We were denied the right to call ourselves what we are: Anishinaabek. Margaret Chandler was an Original Freedom Fighter. She dedicated herself to fighting for the rights of her people. She was a soft spoken woman, she was truly gentle. She was strong in Spirit, giving in her nature, I can say that Margaret was a kind woman. She was a woman of quiet dignity. Without her dedication and determination, I could not stand before you today, as a woman of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Many Generations both now and in the future have much to thank Margaret for. For what we have, for what is still yet to come. It is fitting that her life is Celebrated, both as a Michigan Woman, and as an Anishinaabe Kwe. Living true to the Traditions of our Ancestors, she gave of her life, so that others could be Anishinaabek. I am humbled to represent the Little River Band as a Tribal Council Woman, following in footprints that she left behind for others. I am honored to celebrate her life, and her contribution to the fabric of Michigan History.



A copy of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians history book, "Our People, Our Journey" was donated to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in honor of Margaret Chandler. L-R: Sandy Soifer, Executive Director of the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame, Valerie Chandler, and Gladys Beckwith, President of the Michigan Women's Studies Association. Courtesy of Valerie Chandler.



Margaret's son, Tim Chandler. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Margaret's daughter and granddaughter, Sandra Alford and Valerie Chandler. Courtesy of Sandra Alford



L-R: Margaret's daughters Bonnie Belden and Janette Summers, and granddaughter Jennifer Woods. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Family members visited the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame prior to the induction ceremony. L-R: Vicky Wanink, Jennifer Woods, Bonnie Belden, and Sandra Alford. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



In honor of the three Native American women inducted into the 2009 Hall of Fame, a large gathering of Anishinaabek were at the induction ceremony. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Margaret's brother, Richard Bailey, and sister, Elizabeth Krick. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Margaret's son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Sandra Chandler. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



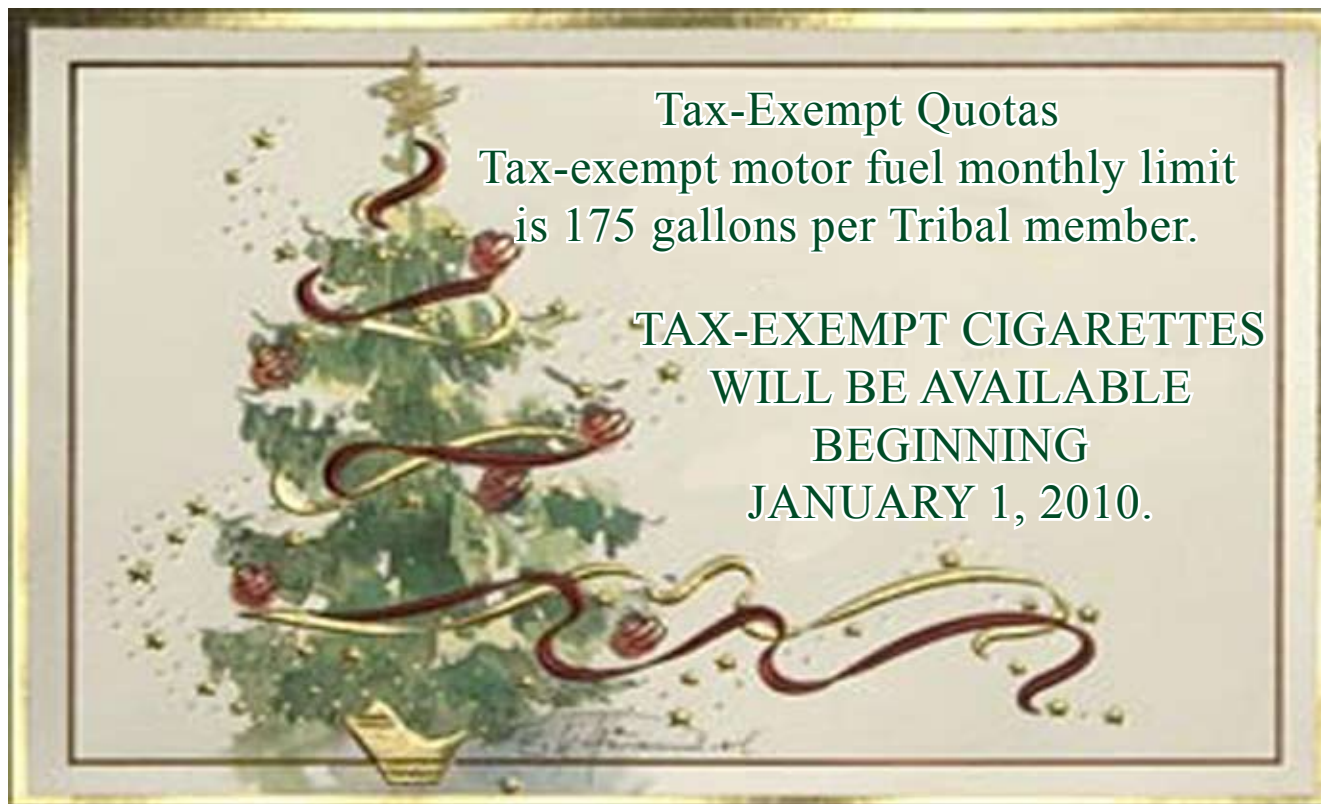
Posing for a photo are the acceptor, nominator, and presenter of Margaret Chandler's award. L-R: Dale Chandler, Valerie Chandler, and Jim McClurken. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



The presentation and acceptance of Margaret's award at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony. L-R: Jim McClurken, Dale Chandler, and Valerie Chandler. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Family members gather for a photo at the induction ceremony. Front row, L-R: Mary Gumienny, Bonnie Belden, Joan Burkhart, Valerie Chandler, Elizabeth Krick. Back row, L-R: Robert Chandler, Janette Summers, Sandra Alford, Vicky Wanink, Jennifer Woods, Dale Chandler, and Richard Bailey. Courtesy of Sandra Alford.



Income Tax Reminders

Don't forget to do your tax planning before the end of the year. Here are some of the provisions of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 that primarily affect individuals.

Making Work Pay Tax Credit – This credit means more take-home pay for many Americans. Make sure enough tax is being withheld from your pay check.

First-Time Homebuyer Credit Expands – Homebuyers who purchase in 2009 can get a credit of up to \$8,000. Potential buyers need to close on a home by November 30, 2009 to qualify.

Money Back for New Vehicle Purchases – Taxpayers who buy certain new vehicles in 2009 can deduct the state and local sales taxes they paid or other taxes and fees they paid in states with no sales tax.

Education Benefits – The new American opportunity credit and enhanced benefits for 529 college savings plans help families and students find ways to pay higher education expenses.

Up to \$2,400 in Unemployment Benefits Tax Free in 2009 – Individuals should check their withholding.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Incentives – Tax credits are available for several energy efficient purchases. See your tax preparer for more details.



Peace award for Family Services

Take Back the Night

Family Services Director and Tribal Elder Bill Memberto received a Peace Award on October 11th on behalf of the tribal departments' work in leading education about domestic violence and working to prevent it through events like the Take Back the Night in Manistee. The award was made by the Manistee Area Peace Group.

The Take Back the Night effort was led by members of Family Services at the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians tribal government. Activities included a family gathering at the new Community Center; joining with other businesses and offices in a decorating contest; participating in a parade and staging their own special evening at the Port City Grille restaurant on River Street.

At the Port City Grille event, over 50 supporters from Manistee gathered to hear entertainment from the Cousins (the Joseph Brothers); presentations by Family Services members, representatives from CHOICES of Manistee and from survivors of Domestic Violence. The attendees then staged their own night time walk down River Street to demonstrate against Domestic Violence.

The Family Services Department also participated in Take Back the Night events in Muskegon. The Manistee Peace Group erected a Peace Pole over a year ago right on River Street at a park near downtown. The pole had the message of Peace on each side, including one that contained the words in Anishinaabemowin, our tribal language. At the pole's dedication, former Ogema Jay Sam addressed the assembled group and spoke about tribal concepts of peace.



JANUARY - RESPECT EVERYONE'S SAFETY

Remember that your workplace behavior can affect the health and welfare of others. Always make the safe choice.

Pay attention at safety meetings so you know exactly what to do to establish and maintain safety during every task.

The Wit and Wisdom of the Summary of Mishaps by: O.O.P.S. – The Organization for Obvious Precautions and Safeguards

Two simple equations that apply to everyone. First, initiative plus knowledge equals kudo. However, bright idea plus overconfidence equals booby-trap.

Nothing is so bad that you can't make it worse by doing something rash or going berserk.



Cabin fever reliever:

**For more information contact Holly Davis Community Health Nurse
231-398-6610 or Community Health Representatives 231-398-6629**

During World War II Navajo code talkers used their language to encode military messages with terms like "iron fish" to refer to submarines and helped turn the tide of the Pacific Theater in favor of the Allied Forces.

Nearly four decades after their contribution to the Marines was unclassified, code talkers are still working toward their just recognition. Many historians credit their unbreakable code as a huge factor for the defeat of the Japanese - but their story is still not widely known.

At Mason County (MI) Central High School on October 15th, two Navajo code talkers traveled from New Mexico for a little history lesson; a little recognition and an event that brought members of two tribes together for a joint effort.

Manistee bike builders Don and Israel Stone of Good Thunder Motorcycles, along with Scottville painter Roger Manley unveiled a one-of-a-kind motorcycle built to honor the code talkers. It will be auctioned off by the Fire Rock Casino in New Mexico to help establish a museum dedicated to the code talkers. (see accompanying story)

Manley is a graduate of Mason County Central and he had wanted the unveiling of the new bike to be there as inspiration for students. Don and Israel Stone are members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians whose company is based in Manistee.



Code Talker Museum

The recent visit by two of the remaining WWII Navajo Code Talkers to Mason County (MI) High School was a unique experience for the students and everyone else attending. Not only were they all treated to the unveiling of the beautiful Fire Rock Casino Custom Motorcycle from Manistee's Good Thunder Motorcycles, but they also had the wonderful experience of hearing from the Code Talkers as they described in detail the experiences that they had during their historic service.

Bill Toledo and Frank Chee Willetto are fascinating individuals to just meet and talk with, However the beauty of their spirit came out in full force when they started telling the auditorium full of students and teachers about everything from their recruitment to details on how the Navajo Code was developed and what life in uniform was like

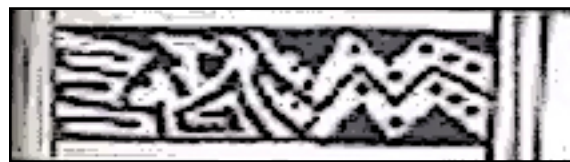
for Native Americans during the war. They kept the audience thrilled to the point that the young people waited to leave well beyond their lunch hour began...and that's not an easy task!

Yvonne Murphy is the Secretary for the Navajo Code Talkers Association based in Arizona. During an interview she passed on more details on the program. The Navajo nation casino, Fire Rock Casino set up a mutual agreement to assist the Navajo Code Talkers Association with their major project. The casino helped to acquire this bike through a competitive bidding process which was won by Good Thunder. (see the accompanying Fire Rock Casino article)

The Association was founded in 1972. Its purpose is to carry on the legacy of the Code Talkers, all of whom are now in their 80's. As a historical group, the Code Talkers never had an official place to call home following their service. Chevron Mining Co. in July of this year stepped up to the plate and donated 208 acres to the Code Talkers Association for the future Code Talkers Museum and Veterans Center.

This special motorcycle will help generate revenue with which to build center. Fire Rock Casino will soon hold a raffle for the bike with the proceeds going to the Association. In the near future, the website for the code talkers at www.navajocodetalkers.org will be up and running so that you can follow their progress. If you wish to contact the Association, please do so at:

Navajo Code Talkers Association
Attn. Yvonne Murphy
PO 1266 Window Rock AZ 86515
928-688-5202



Fire Rock and Good Thunder

So, how did a Navajo Casino and an Anishinaabek Custom Motorcycle builder come to work together on a project to benefit a WWII Secret Unit of Code Talkers? In an interview with Rhonda Ray, the Marketing Director for Fire Rock Casino, Currents got some answers. A group whose name in Navajo is "Mahi" meaning "Comes Back From War", had approached the casino about doing a fundraising event for a non-profit organization helping their own people. Ray reports that there are

about 5,000 Navajo Bikers in this group. The casino and the Mahi put together a committee and started 'tweaking' the idea some. After discussion, they decided that they wanted to do a custom bike.

To do so, they put together a Request for Proposal (RFP) which Good Thunder Motorcycles answered and won. The Fire Rock/Mahi Team thought that this relationship would be perfect...and it was! They contacted Don Stone and started the process.

Then the group started thinking about what non-profit organization they should help with this fund raising event and the Code Talkers immediately came to mind as they had just been donated a nice piece of land and they wanted to establish a museum.

Next the Navajo group started talking with Stone and the artist Roger Manley about the bike and what they wanted it to be. This led to including the Navajo Nation logo; their Veterans seal; the Navajo Code Talkers seal and since they were sponsoring it, the Fire Rock Casino logo on the bike.

The Fire Rock Casino is giving the title back to the Code Talker Association who will conduct the raffle fund-raiser. In addition, this bike is scheduled to appear on Veterans Day (11.11.09) in Washington D.C. for the Veterans parade. 12 of the Code Talkers will be going to the event and they will appear on the HBO Float with the President of the Navajo Nation, Joe Shirley and their Speaker of the House, Lawrence Morgan. Don Stone is scheduled to be traveling with the bike to the Veterans Day celebration and then out to Fire Rock Casino in New Mexico.

Rhonda Ray said that the mission statement for the project is 'Giving Back' to our Code Talkers for their sacrifice during the war. She also was thrilled about the cultural significance about the relationship between the tribes and how it honors all native people, our culture and our ways. She said this is 'the first bike' and that it was also significant because it was part of our way to address our mutual Seventh Generations. She also spoke about how this was part of a greater circle, our four directions, four colors and our sacred fire(s).

The website for the casino is www.firerock-navajocasino.org where you will be able to see more details on the bike and the raffle.

The bike itself has a 107cc engine with a 6-speed transmission; is a Soft Tail with gas shock absorbers, 250 tires and is a Pro Street edition.



H1N1 VACCINE:

THE VALUE OF PROTECTING THOSE MOST AT-RISK

What are the “target groups”?

Some groups of people will be affected more severely from the H1N1 virus. Tribal elders are respected members in the community and should encourage the following groups be vaccinated first:

- * **Pregnant Women**
- * **Anyone who has regular contact with children younger than 6 months old.**
- * **Healthcare and emergency medical service personal.**
- * **All people 5months through 24 years old.**
- * **People 25 through 64 years old who have health conditions like asthma, diabetics, cancer, heart didease, or are immunosuppressed.**

People with these conditions have a higher risk of medical complicationsfrom flu.

Why do I need to wait to get vaccinated?

- * To best protect your family, your grandchildren, and your tribe. It is important for you to wait to get your H1N1 vaccine.
- * It is your responsibility to protect those most at-risk in your tribal community.

Please contact the LRBOI Tribal Health Clinic for further information at 1-888-382-8299

Vaccine Supply

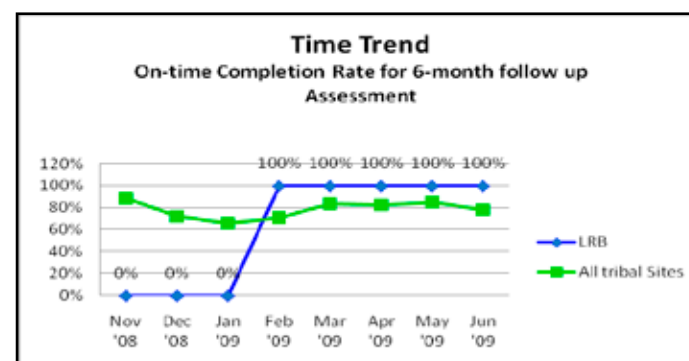
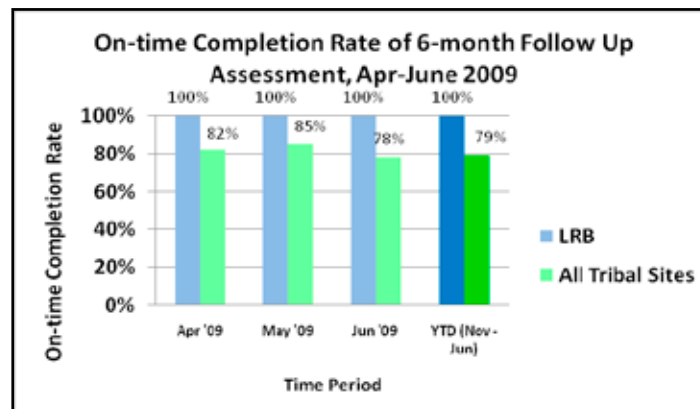
- * It is expected that there will be enough 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine for anyone who chooses to get vaccinated.
- * The 2009 H1N1 vaccine first became available in early October and more doses are becoming available every week.



Little River Band Community ATR Access Site Outcome Report Covering 11/08-6/09 On-Time Completion of the 6 Month Follow Up

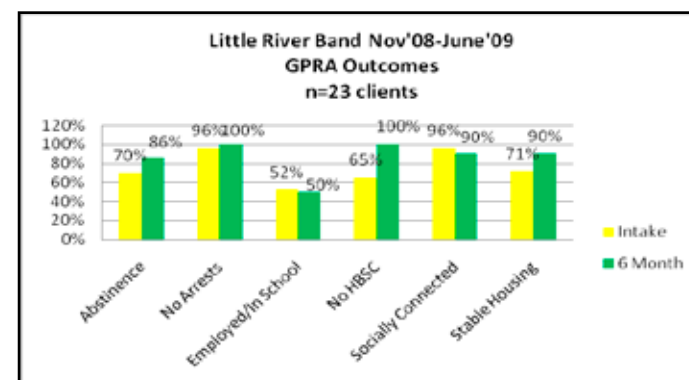
SAMSHA requires that a minimum of 80% of ATR clients receive a 6 month follow up assessment, and that this data be entered into the database. In the most recent quarter, the on-time completion rate at Little River Band was 100%, surpassing the goal of 80%. Because 100% completion was also achieved in earlier months, the year to date rate is 100%, as well, which is better than the average for all 13 Michigan Tribal ATR sites combined. The consistently high rate maintained by Little River Band helps the project meet the 80% minimum requirement for all sites combined.

(Note: In November '08 to – January '09 the completion rate was zero because there were no clients) Over time, the follow up completion rate has remained at 100% at Little River Band which is consistently higher than the monthly rate for all Michigan Tribal ATR sites combined.

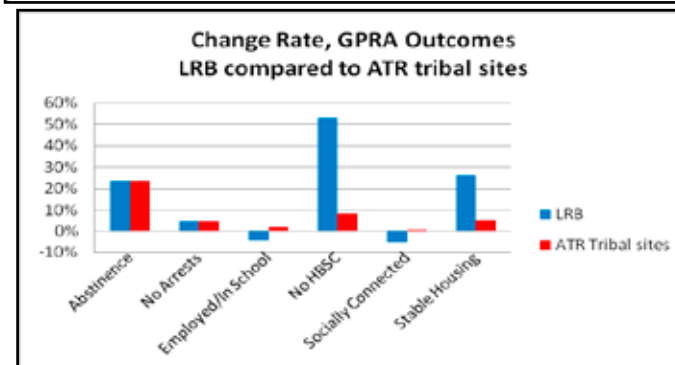


GPRA Outcome Measures: Change from Intake to 6 month Follow Up

Both at intake and at the 6 month follow up, clients are assessed for six key GPRA outcome measures: 1)abstinence, 2)criminal justice involvement (arrest-free), 3)employment or in school status, 4)experience of no substance-use related health, behavioral, or social consequences (HBSC), 5)social connections, and 6)stable housing. Little River Band clients as a group showed improvement between intake and follow up for 4 out of the 6 measures. The percentage of clients Employed/In School showed a slight decline, those reporting being Socially Connected dropped more substantially. percentage with No HBSC was unchanged. effective treatment.



The change rate reflects *how much* improvement was made between intake and follow up. For example, 23% more Little River Band clients reported abstinence at 6 month follow up than did at intake. The gain (or loss) in the percentage of Little River Band clients with the desired outcome is compared to all Michigan Tribal ATR clients combined. Change for LRB clients was dramatically greater than among all Michigan Tribal ATR clients for having no HBSC as well as for Stable Housing. The level of change for the other four measures was similar between LRB and all 13 Michigan ATR Tribal Site clients.





I am writing a story about a story used as a teaching tool and why we need to remember our stories.

Long ago in this one tribe the children became unruly. The parents of the tribe grew very concerned at their children's behavior. The children didn't help out with the gathering of the berries and firewood, or getting water from the river. But the worst thing they did was stay up late at night and they would run around making all kinds of noise, and keeping everyone awake in the village.

The next day the children would sleep most of day away. This went on for many weeks, until one day the parents had enough. The Parents went to the elders of the tribe and asked what could be done. In their meeting the parents spoke of how the children misbehaved.

The Elders asked what you have done to try and change the children's behavior. The parents answered back, we've tried everything; time outs, making them stay in the wiigwaaming, and we even took away their hoop games, nothing seemed to work. The Elders in their wisdom told the parents to come back in three day and they would have an answer for them.

On the second day the Elders called for all of the children that were misbehaving. The Elders spoke to the children one by one. As each child came out of their meeting with the Elders they were somehow changed. They started to behave, and help out around the village. By the end of the day all of the children were all being good.

The following day the parents went back to see the Elders. One of the parents got up and spoke; we have seen each child change for the better. They changed after you spoke to them. What was it that you told them? An Elder looked at the parents and smiled, we told them a story.

[Now that I have your peaked your interest, the art of storytelling is a teaching tool that the Anishinaabek have use for thousands of centuries, to pass on traditional teaching. The stories were a way to teach morals and values to the young children of the Tribe.]

The story we told the children was about baby birds in the nest. It goes like this; each spring the birds come back, they sing their songs of courtship. Soon you can hear the chipping of little ones in the nest. If you watch you can see the Mother and the Father birds flying to the nest with a worm or a bug in its beak.

This is where our story comes in to play. As the Mother bird flies to the nest she can hear her babies chirping away asking for food. The mother bird tells her young ones not to make a sound and to be still when she is out looking for food. This way they would be safe from harm. The three baby birds did as their mother asked them to do. But there was one baby bird that got bored, and started chirping and hopping around in the nest.

The other two baby birds told their sibling to behave, and do what their mother asked them to do. That angered the baby bird and he started to hop up and down and then he started to flap his wings, all the while chipping as loud as he could. The baby bird was getting close to the edge of the nest but he was having too much fun to stop. And that's when it

happened! The baby bird fell out of the nest. As the baby bird hit the ground, the impact knocked the wind out of him, but he was ok. The baby bird got up and looked around and started to wonder how he was going to get back into the nest.

In the mean time, a fox had heard the racket and the ruckus, and decided to see what was going on. The fox saw the baby bird right away. The fox being very hungry crouched down and then sprung on the baby bird. In one fatal bite, the baby bird was eaten! We then told each of the children that they were acting like that baby bird. That when they are misbehaving they are making a "racket and a ruckus," and that they have fallen out of the nest where their mother and father cannot protect them from harm.

Then we told them that the baby bird was being willful and selfish. And he was the one that got hurt in the end. The baby bird did not listen to his parent's experience and wisdom. We said to the children you most likely won't be eaten, but you may be eaten up by guilt, for doing things that you know are wrong. Then with a serious look on their faces an Elder said, you need to change now, and listen to your parents and start to behave. Just before each child reached the doorway to leave, an Elder would say "remember this story."

In Peacemaking we would use a story like this to help in explaining why a juvenile would need to behave, and listen to their parents

I trust that you have enjoyed these ten articles, as much as I enjoyed writing them. I covered Balance, the Seven Grandfather Teachings, the Talking Circle, and this one about story telling as a teaching tool. There you have it a story about a story that explains the use of stories in Anishinaabek culture.

Kchi Miigwech,

BY
Patrick D. Wilson

Come out and join us for our monthly Peacemaking Talking Circle

Patrick D. Wilson,
Peacemaking/Probation Supervisor
Phone: (231) 398-2239
E-mail: pwilson@lrboi.com

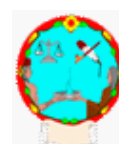
LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
PEACEMAKING/PROBATION DEPARTMENT
"Odenaang Enjinoojimoying"
3031 Domres Road Manistee, Michigan 49660

Austen Brauker,
Peacemaking/ Probation Assistant
Phone: (231) 398-2240
E-mail: abrauker@lrboi.com



The topic of this month's Talking Circle is
"Doing all things in a Good Way"

Aanii piish (where) ... Justice Center
Wenesh pii (when). November 30 at 5:30
NOTE: The meeting is the last Monday of every month.





It's Not Easy, But It's Worth It

By the National Diabetes Education Program

If you have diabetes, you know the day-to-day steps needed to manage diabetes can be hard. Diabetes can lead to serious health problems, such as blindness, loss of limb, kidney failure, heart disease, and early death. Managing diabetes can be easier if you set goals and make a plan.

People who keep their A1C below 7 in the early years after they are diagnosed with diabetes have fewer problems with their eyes, nerves, and kidneys, and have fewer heart attacks later in life. Your A1C measures your blood glucose (blood sugar) over time. Most people, especially those who have just been diagnosed, should aim for an A1C of less than 7. If you have had diabetes for a long time, have other health problems, or have problems with low blood sugar, your A1C target may be higher than 7. Talk with your health care team about your blood glucose targets. Yours may be different from others.

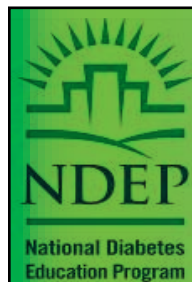
Diabetes management is not just about your blood glucose. Keeping your blood pressure and cholesterol under control can lower your risk for heart attack and stroke as well as other diabetes problems. Take your medicines that are working to control blood pressure and cholesterol. Talk with your health care team about taking control of your blood pressure and cholesterol.

Managing diabetes isn't easy, but it's worth it. The National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) offers tips to help. The first step is to set a goal for yourself. Choose something that is important to you and that you believe you can do. Then make a plan by choosing the small steps you will take. For example, start working towards getting 30 minutes of physical activity, such as brisk walking, most days of the week. If you have not been very active in the past, start slowly and try adding a few minutes each day. Ask others for help with your plan.

NDEP has free resources that can help. For more information on managing diabetes, order a free copy of 4 Steps to Control Your Diabetes. For Life. from the National Diabetes Education Program at www.YourDiabetesInfo.org or call 1-888-693-NDEP (6337); TTY: 1-866-569-1162.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Diabetes Education Program is jointly sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with the support of more than 200 partner organizations.

NDEP's Control Your Diabetes. For Life. campaign seeks to reach the nearly 24 million Americans with diabetes, and their families, with messages about the seriousness of diabetes, ways to control the disease, and the benefits of controlling diabetes for life.



"Love is something that you can leave behind you when you die. It's that powerful."

--John (Fire) Lame Deer, ROSEBUD LAKOTA

The Old Ones say, love is all anyone needs. Love doesn't go away nor can love be divided. Once you commit an act of love, you'll find it continues. Love is like setting up dominos one behind the other. Once you hit the first domino, it will touch the second one which will touch the third one and so on. Every love act or love thought has an affect on each person as well as touching the whole world. If you live a life filled with love, the results will affect your friends, relatives, and other people, even after you go to the other side.

So... Love.

My Creator, let me love. Let me put into action the love dominos.

Food Distribution Program (FDPIR) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Food Stamp Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification. In determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
Net Monthly Income Standards
October 1, 2009 & October 1, 2010

Household Size Income Limits

1. \$ 1,044.00
2. \$ 1,356.00
3. \$ 1,667.00
4. \$ 1,991.00
5. \$ 2,329.00
6. \$ 2,666.00
7. \$ 2,978.00
8. \$ 3,290.00

For each additional member add \$ 312.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program

Office # are 231-398-6715 or 231-398-6716

Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program

Announcement of FY 2009 Grantees Receiving FY 2010 Grant Awards under the Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program (REACH)

THIS CONTAINS INFORMATION ISSUED BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN LIHEAP INFORMATION MEMORANDUM TRANSMITTAL NO. LIHEAP-IM-2009-10, DATED 9/30/09

TO: LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)GRANTEES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
SUBJECT: Announcement of FY 2009 grantees receiving FY 2010grant awards under the Residential EnergyAssistance Challenge Program (REACH).

RELATED

REFERENCES: Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act, Title XXVIof the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981,Public Law 97-35, as amended; LIHEAP-AT-2009-3

dated December 5, 2008 for the Residential EnergyAssistance Challenge Program (REACH).

PURPOSE: To advise grantees that grant awards totaling\$1.015 million will be made to two (2) States,four (4) Tribes, and one (1) Insular Area underthe Residential Energy Assistance ChallengeProgram (REACH) for applications submitted in FY2009 for FY 2010 funding.

BACKGROUND: The Human Services Amendments of 1994 (Public Law103-252) added Section 2607B to the LIHEAPstatute, establishing a Residential EnergyAssistance Challenge Program (REACH), funded forthe first time in FY 1996. REACH is designed tohelp low income households reduce their energyvulnerability.

On December 5, 2008, the Division of EnergyAssistance (DEA) issued Action Transmittal (AT)LIHEAP-AT-2009-03 to inform LIHEAP grantees thatapplications were being accepted for the REACH

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/guidance/information_memoranda/im09-10.html (1 of 3)10/26/2009 1:25:17 PM IM-2009-10 (Announcement of FY 2009 Grantees Receiving FY 2010 Grant ...rds under the Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program (REACH)

program. Significant changes were implementedbeginning in FY 2007 to the REACH program andapplication process. Additionally, grantees wereprovided with a model plan format to use whensubmitting their applications beginning in FY 2009.Eligible LIHEAP grant-ees that wished to obtain

REACH grants were required to submit applicationsto be received by DEA no later than March 30, 2009.

The continuing resolution (Public Law 110-329)enacted on September 30, 2008 provided \$5.1billion for the LIHEAP program and included aprovision that required LIHEAP funds be awardedby October 30, 2008. As a result, there were noFY 2009 funds available to support REACH awards.Consequently, we planned to issue REACH grantawards for the FY 2009 REACH program soon afterthe start of FY 2010, and after the FY 2010

LIHEAPappropriation was enacted. This will constitute a “first round” of REACH grants in FY 2010, since wewill again accept REACH applications for March2010, resuming our normal schedule for the REACH program. We will notify grantees to submitapplications for this “second round” of REACHgrants later this year.

States may receive up to \$350,000, and Tribes/Tribal Organizations and Insular Areas may receiveup to \$50,000, under REACH. In addition,successful applicants that submit EnergyEfficiency Education Services plans (EEES) will beconsidered for additional funds, with States ableto receive up to \$35,000 and Tribes/TribalOrganizations and Insular Areas up to \$10,000.

In order to be considered for REACH, applicants had to submit complete applications that compliedwith new instructions for FY 2009, were innovative,focused on health and safety initiatives forvulnerable households, and were home-energyrelated.

CONTENT: Applications for the FY 2009 REACH program werereceived in a timely manner from five (5) States,seven (7) Tribes and one (1) Insular Area. After careful review and consideration by DEA, REACHprograms from two (2) States, four (4) Tribes andone (1) Insular Area were selected for funding.The total amount to be issued for REACH grantsfrom FY 2010 funds will be \$1.015 million.

Attached is a listing of the FY 2009 grantees to be funded in FY 2010 under the REACH program.

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/guidance/information_memoranda/im09-10.html (2 of 3)10/26/2009 1:25:17 PM IM-2009-10 (Announcement of FY 2009 Grantees Receiving FY 2010 Grant ...rds under the Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program (REACH)

One State grantee qualified to receive anadditional \$35,000 under the EEES program andthree (3) Tribal grantees qualified to receive\$10,000 each for their EEES programs. Each FY 2009 REACH grantee will receive an officialnotification letter that will detail new reportingrequirements on the use of these funds.

INQUIRIES TO: Ms. Charlotte AbneyEnergy Assistance Program SpecialistDivision of Energy AssistanceOffice of Community Services, ACF, HHS370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.Washington, D.C. 20447Telephone: (202) 401-5334Fax: (202) 401-5661

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/guidance/information_memoranda/im09-10.html (3 of 3)10/26/2009 1:25:17 PM

The Tribe is obligated to notify you, Per Capita payments are subject to Federal Taxation. Per Capita is taxable income and the taxes assessed depend on your income bracket and location. The Tribe will automatically deduct applicable taxes from the per capita payments IF the payment meet the Internal Revenue Service's threshold that require the withholding, otherwise a completed Misc. 1099 form will be mailed to you. The payments may also be subject to state tax if you do not live in the tax agreement area. All Per Capita payments will be reported on the appropriate tax form (Misc. 1099) and mailed to you by Jan. 31st in time for your tax preparation. We encourage you to contact a tax preparer for further tax questions.

Per Capita Payment Services

Direct Deposit it is safe, it's quick and it's convenient! As a service to the membership the Tribe has direct deposit available for Per Capita payments. This service has been well received by current participants. Please consider using this service to receive your payments.

What are the benefits of direct deposit?

- ☐ Through direct deposit the funds are available the date of the per capita disbursement.
- ☐ It is one less thing to worry about because it is the safest way to receive your payment.
- ☐ Easier and more convenient way to receive your payment, no waiting on the mail carrier to deliver a check.
- ☐ There are no checks to be lost or stolen.
- ☐ Saves on the cost incurred for a stop payment and reissue in the event a check is lost or stolen.
- ☐ If you are not able to make it to the bank to cash a check, you will receive the payment safely in your bank account through direct deposit.
- ☐ If you move, you have access to the payment through a bank debit/credit card. (Address must remain up to date with Enrollment Department to receive payment, please plan ahead an update as soon as possible)
- ☐ Payment register is mailed to you.

For more information about direct deposit contact your bank. It truly is a convenient service that is safe, secure and saves time. If you would like a direct deposit form mailed to you please contact the Members Assistance Department by calling 888-723-8288. The form is also available online at www.lrboi.com

The form must be received 30 days prior to a disbursement. Forms received after this period may receive direct deposit the following quarter. We must receive the original form to process the request. Faxed copies are not an acceptable form of submission. Distributions are scheduled to be made on the first day of each fiscal quarter.

As a reminder please reference the Per Capita Q & A for common questions asked about per capita payments. This is located at our website at www.lrboi.com

Miigwetch!

Lee A. Iverson
Members Assistance Coordinator

Anishinaabemowin damnawin

To heard the pronunciation of these words you can dial out toll free number at 1-888-723-8288 then listen to your options then push # 6

Words for December

Clothing	Wiikwaan
Eye glasses	Midaasan
Coat/jacket	Biindaagan
Hat/cap	Biiskawaagan
Shoes	Pabagwayaan
Socks	Michikaawinak
Pants	Mikizinan
Pocket	Shkiizhigokaajiganan
Shirt	Miiknot
Gloves/mitts	Gowinan

Submitted by Kenny Pheasant, from Historical Preservation Department

If you have any questions please call 1-231-398-6892 or Email at kpheasant@lrboi.com

Match the words from English to Anishinaabemowin
Answers from last month (November)

Trees	Mtigok
Children	Binojiinhak
Women	Kwewok
Pipes	Pawaaganak
Drums	Adeweganak
Plates	Naaganan
Soldiers	Zhimaaganishak
Pies	Baashkiminsigebiitoojiishkweginiganak
Turkeys	Mzisenhak
Men	Niniwok

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Housing Department is pleased to announce that we will have five new 3-bedroom homes available for rent at Aki Maadiziwin in Manistee. These are newly constructed single family homes with all new appliances (including washer/dryers), attached garages and full basements.

These homes are available for low-income families. Rental payments will be 20% of the household's adjusted monthly income. To be considered "low income" your annual gross household income cannot exceed the amounts listed below.

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6
Income	\$35,850	\$40,950	\$46,100	\$51,200	\$55,300	\$59,400

Copies of the Regulations governing eligibility and occupancy may be obtained from the Housing Department or the tribal web site.

If you are interested in applying for a rental unit, please call Denise Lewis at the Housing Department at 231.398.6876 or Toll Free 1.888.723.8288.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Natural Resource Department
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660
Phone (231) 723-8288

Mail to: L.R.B.O.I.
Natural Resource Dept.
Attn. Israel Stone
375 River st.
Manistee Mi 49660

November 2009

Request for Qualifications:

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is requesting a Qualification Resume from qualified Logging Companies .

Scope of the project:

Qualified Logging Company that can process Red Pine

Proposal time line:

Preliminary conferences with the Natural Resource Department are to be completed by 12-1-09. To schedule a meeting to discuss any questions or concerns, please contact Israel Stone at 231 398-2194. or John Grocholski at 231 398-2189

Qualification Resume must be received by 12-2-09

Qualification Resume received after 5pm, on 12-2-09 shall not be considered. If mailed, Resumes must be postmarked on or before 11-30-09).

Tribal History: The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is a sovereign and federally recognized Tribal government. Our governmental offices are based in Manistee, Michigan, within the boundaries of a 70,000-acre reservation along the Manistee River, established under the 1836 Treaty of Washington. The LRBOI and the United States reaffirmed their government-to-government relationship under P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994. The Tribe has since instituted a governmental infrastructure and service delivery system necessary for rebuilding a sustainable tribal community.

General Information:

To accomplish this goal, the Tribe requires its vendors to be able to accomplish the following:

The Logging company must provide (type of license if necessary) the State of Michigan and that its commercial operation abides by all federal and state laws and regulations.

The Logging company must provide (proof of insurance if necessary).

Qualification Criteria

Qualification Resumes received will be based on the following factors:

Type of Logging equipment owned by company

Years of operations as a logging company

References

Availability to complete task within given time frame

Tribal Preference

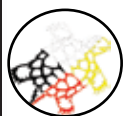
Qualification Resume Format Instructions:

Resume should include the following information:

- 1) Date submitted
- 2) Name and title of person/persons authorized to conduct discussions or negotiations with the Tribe.
- 3) Address and phone number of the Logging Company's place of business.
- 4) Please include three-business reference that your business has worked with in the last two years. Please include phone numbers.
- 5) Any additional information necessary)

MUSCHIGON CONSTRUCTION, LLC

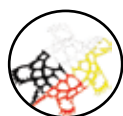
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@ 231-723-7250

email:

ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com

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Tribal Government Internships



Tribal Members interested in doing an internship with
the L.R.B.O.I. Tribal Government Office please contact:
Department of Commerce:
231-398-6806



“Developing Strategic Partnerships Which Build Communities”.



Here is a tribal-member owned business update for **Native Performance Consulting** out of Gresham, WI. The information was submitted by owner Lynn Piwonski:

1. Name of the business
Native Performance Consulting
2. Member name
Lynn Piwonski
3. Location of business
Gresham, WI
4. Phone/Fax/E-mail/Website
231-510-8667
715-787-4495
lpiwonski@nativeperformanceconsulting.com
5. Prime product/service:
 - a. What you offer:
Organizational Assessments, Performance Assessments, Management Coaching, Performance Focus Groups, Employee Opinion Surveys, Customer Satisfaction Surveys, Performance Tools (Standard Operating Procedures, Job Aids, Action Plans, etc) and Training
 - b. What types of clients are you in search of at this time?
All
6. How long in business
2004 (established)
7. Clientele...either type of businesses using your services
Tribal, Private Sector and For Profit

Tribal member Delano Peters of Manistee has come up with a unique idea that will help his fellow tribal members who know how to weld. Delano came up with the concept of producing a new kind of wagon that would be very strong and one that would allow someone to move heavy machinery and equipment with improved safety. He has even had the idea protected by the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C.!

His wagons can be designed for specific tools or machines. One key to the successful design is that the wagons design drops the center of gravity to a much lower and more stable level. In fact, the bed of the wagon is about axle height for the wheels. When moving heavy equipment which is mounted to the wagon bed, the operator has quite a bit more confidence that the load will not become overbalanced and possibly fall off over. Plus the wagons have brakes on them so that once you have the machinery where you need it, it will stay there!

Delano's idea is to teach tribal members who already know how to weld about building these wagons to develop their own business and trade. You can see some of the various configurations of the wagons below. For more information, please call Delano Peters at 231-398-2784.

A Helping Hand



2009 State History Awards Presented on Mackinac Island

(Editor's note: The Tribal History Book recently released has been honored by the Historical Society of Michigan. Following are excerpts of the press release)

MACKINAC ISLAND MI:

The Historical Society of Michigan presented its 2009 State History Awards at the 135th annual Meeting and State History Conference being held on Mackinac Island, Michigan October 2-4. The awards were presented at the annual awards banquet on Friday evening. The State History Awards are the highest recognition presented by the state's official historical society and oldest cultural organization, established in 1828.

Thirteen awards were presented this year in a variety of categories including Publications: University and Commercial Press, Publications: Private Printing, Media, Communications, Educational Programs, Restoration & Preservation, Distinguished Volunteer Service, Special Programs and Events and Lifetime Achievement.

Four books were recognized with State History Awards in the Publications: University and Commercial Press category.

James M. McClurken received a State History Award for his book, *Our People, Our Journey: The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians*, published by Michigan State University Press. The book is a beautifully and thoughtfully done work that tells the long and often tortured story of a people's search for their identity and place in an often indifferent world. It is done with compassion and sympathy but without the attempts to stir maudlin emotionalism. It is a heart-warming story of successes, failures, and internal issues. But mostly, it is a story of perseverance.

STUDENTS!!!!

Please note that beginning with the winter/spring semester 2009-2010 that incomplete applications for the Higher Education Book Stipend will not be accepted. When you apply for the book stipend your complete application must include ALL of the following three items:

CLASS SCHEDULE FOR THE SEMESTER YOU ARE BEGINNING
GRADES FOR THE SEMESTER YOU HAVE JUST COMPLETED- INCLUDING CUMULATIVE GPA
COMPLETED COLLEGE BOOK STIPEND APPLICATION

If any of these three items is missing, there will be no Book Stipend processed. Incomplete applications will not be processed and they will not be returned. It is your

responsibility to send the COMPLETED APPLICATION, including CLASS SCHEDULE, AND GRADES together in order to qualify for the stipend. If you do not send all three items together and complete, including your complete address, you will not receive a book stipend.

So here is what you need to do:

Get a copy of your grades for the last semester you completed- including your cumulative gpa

Get a copy of your class schedule

Download and print a College Book Stipend application

Complete the application, including your address and tribal ID number. Also include the area code for your phone

number and address including apartment number, city, state and zip code for your address
If you are confused about this process please contact Yvonne Parsons at 231-398-6735

For your convenience, the applications are easily accessible and available to download and print from the tribal website at www.lrboi.com.



Elders Conference

Mnido-Gisoons (Little Spirit Moon)
December 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 11



*Believe and you shall succeed.
November 9th, 2009*

The Elders Committee would like to Thank You all very much for helping us making our Elders Conference a big success. We received quite a few compliments on the conference this year. With you all volunteering your time and information it made our conference a well-informed and enjoyable conference.





Thank you all very,
very much!!!!

The Elders Committee



Member's Submissions

Mnidoo-Gisoons (Little Spirit Moon)
December 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 11



Happy Birthday
To Duane Renner
Garry King
Y Theodore

Happy Birthday to Alan
King from Yvonne



Elora Sky Spears born 6-10-2009
Weight 7lbs 2oz
Great Grand parents Paul
& Karen Carey

Announcing the Arrival of
Mr. Kanasa William Underwood
Born to Don & De-ahna Underwood
weighing in at 8lbs. 9.6 oz.,
born today, August 25,
2009 at 1:17 p.m.
And he is an awesome Virgo
just like his Great Auntie.

Check out the moves of #7, young Josh
Stone playing in Manistee."



Alexander Mark Beccaria
Alexander Mark Beccaria, infant son of Mark and
Melissa (Keeler) Beccaria walked on Sunday, No-
vember 1st, 2009. He was born October 6th in Man-
istee. Council member Loretta Beccaria was Alexan-
der's paternal grandmother.

Congratulations-
Lily Memberto for making the Jr. National Honor Society at Hunting
Henniger Middle School. Lily also had an outstanding season in X-
Country this fall, never placing below 3rd.
A shout out to-
Gabriel Memberto for winning 4th Novice Indian Lacross Champion-
ship in a row with the Onondaga Red Hawk from the Onondaga Nation
in Syracuse New York.

From
Dad, Michelle, your Mom and the entire Memberto Family

Visitors to Gathering Grounds



Tribal member Del Peters provided information on some visitors in
mid-October as Jerome and Stella Whitepigeon stopped for a while
at our Gathering Grounds. They had two beautiful Appaloosas with
them. Jerome is a Saginaw Chippewa member and is from Shepherd,
MI.

Stella is a tribal member of Little River and she told the Currents
that the black and white horse is unusual in that there are only 46 in
the United States that have the blood line of the Nez Perce. Stella
said that the horse had a baby which then had a baby that looks just
like her.

Stella also wanted to thank everyone that came by and especially
wanted to thank the Tribal Police which checked on them regularly
and made them feel very safe.

Thanks to Del for the photo and to the Whitepigeons for stopping
by!



Our beloved Tribal Sister walked on Sunday, No-
vember 8, 2009. After a long battle the Creator
called home Denise A. Thomas. Denise was the
youngest child of Vern and Loretta (Pete) Thomas
born on April 22, 1964. She leaves behind her be-
loved daughter, Brooke Rynders, her sister Roxanne
Pfeffer, brothers Greg, Mark, Todd and Jay Thomas,
one niece and two nephews along with many cous-
ins, aunts and uncles. She will be missed by her
family and many friends. Walk on into the light our
beloved Denise. You will be thought of with love for your beauty,
kindness, generosity, and most of all your sense of humor.

The family of Denise Thomas wants to send out their heartfelt "Thank
You" to the individuals who were so kind to tend the fire and for those
who supported the fire keepers by bringing food and drink. You kind-
ness did not go unnoticed. Thank you.

LRBOI Biologist Instructor at Local Stream Restoration Workshops
A unique partnership agreement between the Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has resulted in the development of a series of road/stream crossing workshops that have been held in Michigan and Wisconsin. Recently two such workshops were held in Cadillac where the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was a partner and the LRBOI Aquatic Biologist Stephanie Ogren was instrumental in site selection and presenting on stream restoration activities implemented by the Tribe. Eight national and local agencies came together to create the three day workshop designed to inform participants (local road commission staff, engineers, and private consultants) about the benefits of stream restoration in the form of road stream crossings. With over 167,000 road/stream crossings in the Great Lakes basin this is an enormous threat to the local fishery, including poor fish passage and habitat destruction. Three sites that the Tribe and local partners worked to improve over the past five years were showcased and field tours were conducted. Participants were able to see firsthand how improvements in their watershed show positive results for the fishery and stream community. This was an excellent opportunity for the Tribe to showcase its work in the watershed.



State, Tribes Reach Collaborative Resolution on Mullett Lake Walleye Fishery



The Department of Natural Resources and the five Tribes in the 1836 Treaty-ceded territory of Michigan have reached a collaborative resolution to address the walleye fishery on Mullett Lake in Cheboygan County that will allow for harvest of walleyes to continue on the lake in 2010

by both Tribal subsistence fishers and state-licensed recreational anglers.

The resolution includes the state and Tribes working together to develop a multi-faceted approach to monitoring and enhancing the walleye population over next five years, through the 2014 fishing season.

The plan includes fishery management changes by the state and collaborative assessment monitoring by both the state and the tribes that encompasses continued creel surveys for the 2010 fishing season, a joint assessment of the entire chain of lakes, and longer term the potential to develop a joint fish stocking effort.

As a result of the resolution, Kelley Smith, chief of the DNR's Fisheries Division, announced at the Michigan Natural Resources Commission today that the Tribes have agreed

to withdraw their request to invoke allocation-based procedures on the lake for 2010. The resolution creates flexibility for the State to set appropriate harvest regulations for walleye on the lake in 2010. Smith said, however, the state still needs to work with the public between now and early December to determine whether a reduced bag limit, a higher minimum size limit, a shortened season or some combination of those will be most appropriate for walleye taken by state-licensed anglers on Mullett Lake.

"Given the low population estimate, we realized that something would need to be done related to fishing regulations on Mullett Lake for harvest of walleyes by state-licensed anglers," Smith said. "We planned to undertake a review with the public next summer, but we are moving more quickly given the overall concern for the health of the walleye population in Mullett Lake."

During discussions with the tribes, Smith said there was concern on both sides about the fishery survey conducted on Mullett Lake in 2009.

"There is overall uncertainty about the population estimate of adult walleyes in Mullett Lake," Smith said. "The range is 2,001 to 3,577 adult walleyes. There is also some uncertainty on both sides about the interaction between the lakes in this particular chain of lakes – Mullett, Burt, Crooked and Pickerel."

Jimmie Mitchell, Director of the Natural Resource Department for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians agreed that he is equally con-

cerned about the lower Walleye population estimate on Mullet but also, how misconceptions are being portrayed in certain circles about how the detriment actually occurred. Allocation was our initial reaction because it provided greater control over the total amount of Walleye that could be preserved in Mullet, said Mitchell. Mitchell concluded that he is optimistic with the collaborative approach that was agreed to between the State and Tribes; one which takes everyone's concerns and needs into consideration.

Fisheries regulations will be developed, Smith said, that use the upper range of the population estimate to calculate safe harvest levels. The state and tribes have agreed to set a safe harvest level of 40 percent on Mullett Lake, and the DNR Fisheries Division will recommend a modification to the Mullett Lake fisheries order to change the state regulations to meet the new harvest level. The new regulation will be taken up at the December NRC meeting in Lansing.

The DNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management, accessible use and enjoyment of the State's natural resources for current and future generations.



Megwa Ezhiweback

Mnidoo-Gisoons (Little Spirit Moon)
December 2009 Vol. 6 Issue 11

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
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Halloween 2009

